

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

We claim:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A method of screening for a substance which is useful in the treatment of a lipid metabolism dysfunction associated with apolipoprotein C-III, comprising

contacting said substance with a human Rev-erb receptor protein (hRev-erb) or a protein which at least comprises the hRev-erb ligand binding site and the hRev-erb DNA binding site;

providing a hRev-erb response element or a polynucleotide sequence onto which said Rev-erb receptor is capable of binding thereto; and

detecting the transcriptional activity of a gene which is under the control of a promoter comprising said response element in the presence and absence of said test substance,

wherein modulation of said transcriptional activity of said gene in the presence of said test substance indicates that said test substance is useful in the treatment of said lipid metabolism dysfunction associated with apolipoprotein C-III.

Claim 2. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the Rev-erb receptor is the hRev-erba receptor and the Rev-erb receptor response element is the hRev-erba receptor response element.

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A process for screening a substance which is useful in the treatment of a lipid metabolism dysfunction associated with apolipoprotein C-III, comprising

placing a test substance in contact with a receptor of the human Rev-erb family (hRev-erb) or a protein which at least comprises the hRev-erb ligand binding site and the hRev-erb DNA binding site,

providing a human Rev-erb receptor response element or a polynucleotide sequence onto which said hRev-erb is capable of binding thereto,

providing a nuclear factor which is capable of functionally coupling the Rev-erb to an RNA-polymerase complex, and

measuring:

(a) (i) the binding of said test substance to the Rev-erb receptor or

(ii) the binding of a test substance-hRev-erb receptor complex to said hRev-erb response element and/or to a nuclear factor capable of functionally coupling said hRev-erb to the